Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1, 2, 7, 9, 13 and 33 are amended and claims 14-24 and 64-96 are canceled. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of treating a patent foramen ovale in a heart, the method comprising:

advancing a catheter device **for treating the patent foramen ovale** to a position in the heart **which does not extend through** [for treating] the patent foramen ovale; and

applying energy to tissues adjacent the patent foramen ovale with the catheter device to substantially close the patent foramen ovale [acutely].

2. (currently amended) A method as in claim 1, further comprising **engaging a distal structure on the catheter device against a right atrial side of the patent foramen ovale to bring** [bringing] the tissues at least partially together[, using the catheter device].

3. (original) A method as in claim 2, wherein the tissues are brought together before applying the energy.

4. (original) A method as in claim 2, further comprising holding the tissues together while applying the energy.

5. (original) A method as in claim 4, further comprising holding the tissues together after the energy has been applied.

6. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 5, further comprising cooling the tissues after the energy has been applied.

7. (currently amended) A method as in claim 2, wherein **engaging the distal structure** [bringing the tissues at least partially together] comprises contacting the tissues with a tissue covering member adjacent a distal end of the catheter device.

8. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 7, wherein contacting the tissues with the tissue covering member causes blood pressure in a left atrium of the heart to bring the tissues at least partially together.

9. (currently amended) A method as in claim 8, **further comprising** [wherein bringing the tissues together further comprises] applying vacuum force to the tissues with the tissue covering member **to bring the tissues at least partially together**.

10. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 1, further comprising cooling the tissues after the energy has been applied.

11. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 10, further comprising:
bringing the tissues at least partially together, using the catheter device; and
holding the tissues together while applying the energy and while cooling the tissues.

12. (original) A method as in claim 1, wherein advancing the catheter comprises positioning a distal end of the catheter in a right atrium of the heart.

13. (currently amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein advancing comprises advancing the catheter over a **guidewire** [guide catheter] extending **through** [into] the patent foramen ovale**, the method further comprising removing the guidewire from the patent foramen ovale so that nothing remains in the patent foramen ovale before applying the energy to the tissue**.

14-24 (canceled)

25. (original) A method as in claim 1, wherein applying energy comprises applying at least one of radiofrequency energy, cryogenic energy, resistive heat energy, ultrasound energy, microwave energy and laser energy.

26. (original) A method as in claim 25, wherein at least one of monopolar radiofrequency energy and bipolar radiofrequency energy is applied.

27. (original) A method as in claim 25, wherein applying energy comprises energizing a single conductive member of the catheter device.

28. (original) A method as in claim 25, wherein applying energy comprises energizing multiple conductive members of the catheter device.

29. (original) A method as in claim 1, wherein applying energy comprises denaturing collagen in the tissues.

30. (original) A method as in claim 1, further comprising monitoring an amount of energy applied to the tissues.

31. (original) A method as in claim 30, wherein monitoring the amount of energy comprises monitoring a temperature of the tissues.

32. (original) A method as in claim 30, wherein monitoring the amount of energy comprises monitoring an impedance of the tissues.

33. (currently amended) A method as in claim 30, further comprising determining when a sufficient amount of energy has been applied to the tissues to substantially close the patent foramen ovale [acutely].

34. (original) A method as in claim 33, further comprising discontinuing the application of energy when the sufficient amount of energy has been applied.

35. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 1, further comprising directly visualizing the patent foramen ovale and the tissues using at least one visualization device coupled with the catheter device.

36. (withdrawn) A method of treating a patent foramen ovale in a heart, the method comprising:

advancing a catheter device to a position in the heart for treating the patent foramen ovale; and

removing energy from tissues adjacent the patent foramen ovale with the catheter device to substantially close the patent foramen ovale acutely.

37. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 36, further comprising bringing the tissues at least partially together, using the catheter device.

38. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 37, wherein the tissues are brought together before removing the energy.

39. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 37, further comprising holding the tissues together while removing the energy.

40. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 39, further comprising holding the tissues together after the energy has been applied.

41. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 37, wherein bringing the tissues at least partially together comprises contacting the tissues with a tissue covering member adjacent a distal end of the catheter device.

42. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 41, wherein contacting the tissues with the tissue covering member causes blood pressure in a left atrium of the heart to bring the tissues at least partially together.

43. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 42, wherein bringing the tissues together further comprises applying vacuum force to the tissues with the tissue covering member.

44. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 36, wherein advancing the catheter comprises positioning a distal end of the catheter in a right atrium of the heart.

45. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 36, wherein advancing comprises advancing the catheter over a guide catheter extending into the patent foramen ovale.

46. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 45, wherein the guide catheter extends through the patent foramen ovale into a left atrium of the heart.

47. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 45, further comprising retracting a sheath portion of the guide catheter to expose an expanding member within the patent foramen ovale, the exposed expanding member bringing the tissues adjacent the patent foramen ovale at least partially together.

48. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 47, wherein the exposed expanding member provides lateral force to the tissues adjacent the patent foramen ovale.

49. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 48, wherein the exposed expanding member provides the lateral force without extending into the left atrium of the heart.

50. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 47, wherein the exposed expanding member, by contacting the tissues, aligns a cross-sectional center of the catheter device approximately with a cross-sectional center of the patent foramen ovale.

51. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 47, further comprising:

contacting a left atrial surface of at least one of a septum primum and a septum secundum with a distal portion of the expanding member; and

retracting the expanding member to bring the tissues adjacent the patent foramen ovale together.

52. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 51, further including retracting the expanding member to a position within the guide catheter.

53. (withdrawn) A method as in claim52, further comprising removing the guide catheter through the catheter device after the expanding member is retracted within the guide catheter.

54. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 53, wherein the guide catheter is removed before removing the energy.

55. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 36, wherein advancing comprises advancing the catheter over a guidewire extending through the patent foramen ovale, wherein the guidewire includes an expanding portion along its length for expanding within the patent foramen ovale.

56. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 55, further comprising:

contacting a left atrial surface of at least one of a septum primum and a septum secundum with a distal portion of the guidewire; and

retracting the guidewire to bring the tissues adjacent the patent foramen ovale together.

57. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 36, wherein removing energy comprises applying at least one cryogenic energy member to the tissues.

58. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 36, further comprising monitoring an amount of energy removed from the tissues.

59. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 58, wherein monitoring the amount of energy comprises monitoring a temperature of the tissues.

60. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 58, wherein monitoring the amount of energy comprises monitoring an impedance of the tissues.

61. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 58, further comprising determining when a sufficient amount of energy has been removed from the tissues to substantially close the patent foramen ovale acutely.

62. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 61, further comprising discontinuing the application of energy when the sufficient amount of energy has been removed.

63. (withdrawn) A method as in claim 36, further comprising directly visualizing the patent foramen ovale and the tissues using at least one visualization device coupled with the catheter device.

64-96 (canceled)